

The Office of the Governor **Proclamation**

Executive Department State of Idaho State Capitol Boise

WHEREAS, Idaho's community health centers are community-owned and operated not-for-profit businesses that provide access to quality, cost-effective primary and preventive health care that is affordable to all Idahoans and their families; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers are located in twenty-two medical underserved Idaho communities; and

WHEREAS in 2001, Community Health Centers served 61,558 patients who accumulated over 225,000 medical and dental visits; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, 55% of all health center patients had incomes below 100% of the federal poverty level; 75% of health center patients had incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level and 46% of all health center patients had no health insurance; and

WHEREAS, community health centers serve a unique mix of patients and have a set of revenue sources different from those of any other type because they are located in medically underserved areas and serve low-income and uninsured patients; and

WHEREAS, federal grant dollars help support the sliding fee schedule for patients with limited income, and federal grant dollars are not keeping pace with the rising number of low-income uninsured and underinsured patients.

WHEREAS, in 2001, community health centers saved the state \$3.4 million in Medicaid expenditures; and

WHEREAS, community health centers are our "safety net" providers and a sound public investment for our citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim August 10 through 16, 2003, to be

COMMUNITY AND MIGRANT HEALTH CENTER WEEK

in Idaho, and I urge all Idahoans to be aware of the tremendous work performed by Idaho's community health centers and strongly support their mission and their efforts.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this first day of August in the year of our Lord two-thousand and three and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred twenty-eighth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred fourteenth.

DIRK KEMPTHORNE GOVERNOR

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